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For local beaches.

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Cost billions.

4 **Blue Notebook**
Rundown of recent crime.

10 **Horoscope**
Plus Crossword.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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SMC Alum & Former Student Athlete Lands Role in "Unstoppable" Starring JLo, Matt Damon & More

How does a former Santa Monica College (SMC) football player find himself on the red carpet alongside celebrities likes Jennifer Lopez, Jharrel Jerome and Matt Damon? Chimechi Oparanozie was SMC's 2018 Athlete of the Year, excelling both in football and track and field. But he harbored Hollywood dreams tracing back to a teenage obsession with "Law and Order: Special Victims Unit."

Thanks to his athletic prowess, the 285-pound defensive end found steady work as a stuntman on the television series All American starting in 2019. The popular sports drama, inspired by the life of New York Giants linebacker Spencer Paysinger, is now in its seventh season and a sleeper hit for Netflix.

Off set, Oparanozie supported himself as a certified trainer at Equinox and coaching clients at a Santa Monica boxing gym. A multi-sport athlete, he'd also boxed and practiced mixed martial arts through his youth.

SEE **MOVIE** PAGE 5



Photo Courtesy Chimechi Oparanozie

CHIMECHI: A former SMC Athlete of the Year is now showing off in Hollywood.

Dinner and a show just the tip of New Year's Eve activities

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Singing, skating and every activity in between will be available to Santa Monica both before and after the ball drops.

This New Year's Eve marks the return of local favorite events, as

SEE **NEW YEAR'S** PAGE 6

Less water, more solar part of district sustainability plan

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A more eco-friendly school environment carries plentiful benefits for both the local community and Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) students.

At the SMMUSD Board of

SEE **ENVIRONMENT** PAGE 11


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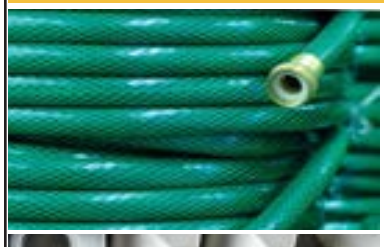
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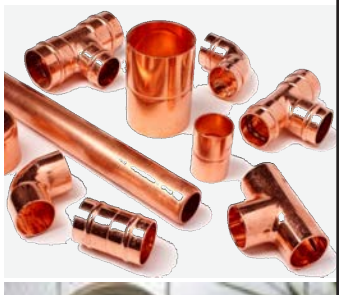


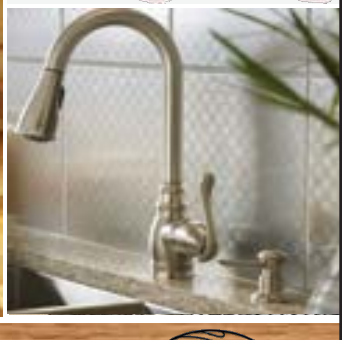


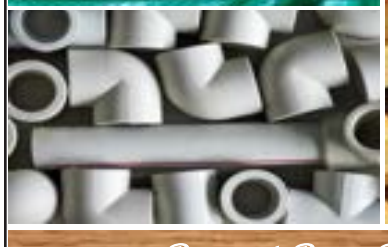
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Los Angeles County Secures $1 Million Grant to Bolster Beach Resilience



Courtesy Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors

BEACH: Erosion caused by winter storms in the winter of 2016-2017 created steep natural berms along the tideline at Zuma Beach.

Los Angeles County will receive $1 million from the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) to advance coastal resilience efforts to protect the County's iconic beaches from climate change-accelerated erosion threats, the Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) has announced.

The OPC governing board voted unanimously on Dec. 10 to provide the much-needed grant of state funds to preserve the County's public beaches. The money from the OPC's Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Grant Program, which aims to equip California's coastal communities with the tools needed to combat climate threats, will support the development of the County's Regional Coastal Strategic Adaptation Plan (RCSAP). The plan is a collaborative effort to protect 16 County-operated beaches, as well as State and local resources, along 45 miles of world-renowned coastline from threats posed by sea level rise and climate change.

"This grant allows us to build on our existing Coastal Resilience Initiative and take a significant step toward ensuring that LA County's beaches remain resilient, accessible and sustainable for future generations," DBH Director Gary Jones said. "We're proud to collaborate with community stakeholders and experts in the field of coastal resilience to find solutions that address climate impacts while promoting equity, inclusivity and sustainability."

Erosion that robs beaches of sand occurs naturally, but its effects are accelerated by dynamic weather patterns spurred by climate change. In LA County and other parts of the State, the resulting powerful storms and heavy wave action have reduced the size of some beaches and increasingly threatened public beach access and amenities and other essential coastal infrastructure.

> "This grant allows us to build on our existing Coastal Resilience Initiative and take a significant step toward ensuring that LA County's beaches remain resilient, accessible and sustainable for future generations
> - Gary Jones, DBH Director

In LA County, Zuma Beach loses approximately 3.6 feet of shoreline annually, Dockweiler erodes at a rate of 4.5 feet per

SEE **BEACH** PAGE 8

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tax loopholes cost California and its cities $107 billion but get little scrutiny

Among the hundreds of bills introduced in every session of the California Legislature, a few deal with what state officials term "tax expenditures," which requires some explanation.

The term refers to provisions in personal and corporate income taxes and sales taxes that exempt specific financial transactions from levies that otherwise would be applied. They have exactly the same fiscal effect as direct appropriations in the budget, which is why they are dubbed "expenditures."

While many loopholes reflect a broad public and political consensus that they serve positive purposes — such as making prescriptions drugs and most grocery store foods tax-free — others provide subsidies to special interests with political clout.

My personal favorite among the latter was enacted about 35 years ago at the behest of Silicon Valley interests. It exempted custom computer programs from sales taxes, generally benefiting corporations willing to pay millions of dollars for such software, while continuing to tax off-the-shelf programs such as Quicken or TurboTax purchased by ordinary consumers.

It's certainly not California's largest tax loophole, costing state and local governments $119 million a year in lost revenue, but it exemplifies the narrow focus of many exemptions.

The software loophole estimate comes from an annual report issued by the state Department of Finance that gets scant public, media and political attention even though, as this year's version confirms, the accumulated effect on state and local government revenues is $107 billion, counting only exemptions of $5 million or more.

"The result: California's $204 billion of estimated General Fund revenues (excluding transfers) in 2024-25 would be roughly 45% greater if there were no personal income, sales and use, or corporate income tax expenditures in state law," Jason Sisney, a fiscal consultant for the Legislature, says in an analysis of the data.

Over time, the number and size of tax expenditures has tended to increase because they often enjoy political support from their beneficiaries, while there's little or no pressure on governors or legislators to reduce or eliminate those with little or no rational basis, such as the custom software exemption.

The legislation creating it was carried by a Silicon Valley legislator, now deceased, known for his laments about the state's parsimonious attitudes toward vital education, health and social services.

What happened a couple of decades ago in the state Board of Equalization, which was then the collector of sales taxes, is another illustration. State law taxes hot prepared foods, such as those served in restaurants, or offered by delis, but exempts cold prepared foods — for reasons lost in antiquity.

The owner of a theater chain asked the board to exempt popcorn from the hot food tax, arguing that while it may be warm when purchased, it's cold by the time theater patrons return to their seats. The board granted the exemption.

The new report lists the income tax exemptions for employer-provided medical care and pension contributions, totaling $29 billion in reduced revenues, as California's two largest tax expenditures. Other personal income tax biggies are exemption of some Social Security benefits ($5.5 billion) and capital gains on inherited properties ($5 billion).

The largest corporate income tax provision, valued at $3.1 billion, limits taxation on the revenues of multinational corporations, an issue that has kicked around the Capitol for at least 50 years with several iterations.

Among the newer items on the list are income and sales tax credits for motion picture and video production ($213 million) and a sales tax exemption for menstrual products ($28 million) and children's diapers ($81 million).

Each year, the governor and the Legislature spend months negotiating thousands of items in the state budget. With $107 billion at stake, perhaps they should spend some of that time reviewing off-budget tax expenditures.

Dan Walters, CalMatters

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Surf report

WATER TEMP: **56.8**

TUESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: Chest to head 4-5FT

Another day to watch with more WNW swell moving in. Wind looks light in the AM but may rise up in the afternoon. Outlook is a little dicey, stay tuned.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR

SURF: Thigh to stomach 2-3FT+

Still plenty of surf in the water as run of WNW/NW swell gradually starts to let off the gas a touch. Current wind outlook is favorable but will want to keep an eye on it.

Weather

Tuesday: A chance of rain after 10am. Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 62.
Tuesday Night: A chance of rain, mainly before 10pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.
Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.
Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/12/24	Tue	04:46 AM	4.66	H
2024/12/24	Tue	11:57 AM	1.38	L
2024/12/24	Tue	5:37 PM	2.90	H
2024/12/24	Tue	10:25 PM	2.00	L
2024/12/25	Wed	05:18 AM	4.95	H
2024/12/25	Wed	12:40 PM	0.78	L
2024/12/25	Wed	6:53 PM	3.00	H
2024/12/25	Wed	11:05 PM	2.24	L
2024/12/26	Thu	05:49 AM	5.25	H
2024/12/26	Thu	1:17 PM	0.23	L
2024/12/26	Thu	7:45 PM	3.16	H
2024/12/26	Thu	11:44 PM	2.39	L
2024/12/27	Fri	06:21 AM	5.54	H
2024/12/27	Fri	1:50 PM	-0.23	L
2024/12/27	Fri	8:24 PM	3.30	H
2024/12/28	Sat	12:23 AM	2.46	L
2024/12/28	Sat	06:55 AM	5.82	H
2024/12/28	Sat	2:24 PM	-0.61	L
2024/12/28	Sat	8:59 PM	3.40	H
2024/12/29	Sun	01:01 AM	2.46	L

Daily Lottery

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POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/18
6 15 18 33 49
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 88 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/17
56 66 67 68 69
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 825 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/18
4 5 17 19 47
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 9 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 12/19
1 11 14 32 39

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/19
EVENING: 6 2 8
Draw Date: 12/19
MIDDAY: 5 5 6

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/19
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:40.91

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GET IT DAILY...

The Blue Notebook - A Weekly SMPD Recap December 7 - December 13

PATROL OPERATIONS DIVISION NOTABLE INCIDENTS:

Battery – 1300 Block 3RD Street Promenade (Barney's Beanery). An intoxicated subject was bothering customers. When the victim, a bartender, attempted to escort the subject from the location, the subject struck him in the face. The bartender struck back in self-defense and the subject fell to the ground, hitting the back of his head. The subject had an outstanding $60,000 warrant out of Inglewood for battery. The case is under investigation.

Overdose (OD)/Narcan Deployment - 1600 Block of 11th Street. Officers responded to an OD at the location, but the subject ran away prior to their arrival. A second call was broadcast when the subject returned. Officers found the subject unconscious and administered Narcan. A second dose was given by paramedics. He was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Suicidal Subject – 1300 Block of 2nd Street (Parking Structure 4). Officers responded to a radio call of a subject standing on the rooftop ledge, on the alley side of the railing. A patrol officer, with assistance of Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) personnel, negotiated with subject for over an hour. SMFD and LAFD responded to assist, deploying an inflatable air cushion. The subject was ultimately grabbed and pulled to safety by the officers. The PD's Department of Mental Health (DMH) clinician placed the individual on a mental health hold, and she was transported to a hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

Vehicle Code Violations/Gun Arrest - Ocean Avenue and Pacific Street. Officers were on patrol near Ocean Ave and Pacific Street where they contacted a subject in a parked vehicle for multiple vehicle code violations. Officers could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and asked the driver to exit the vehicle to conduct a DUI investigation. A search of the vehicle revealed a loaded handgun, an open bottle of alcohol, and marijuana.

Hot Prowl/Burglary – 200 Block of 22nd Street. The victim arrived home and heard two male voices speaking Spanish in her kitchen. The suspects fled when she turned on a light, jumping a fence and fleeing in a waiting vehicle. There was no loss. The investigation is ongoing.

Hot Prowl / Attempted Burglary – 2000 Block of Navy Street. The victim was asleep at home when she woke to the sound of her house alarm. The witness (victim's cohabitant) was monitoring video when she saw two suspects, one carrying a crowbar, jump the fence and enter the property. The witness set off the alarm, causing the suspects to flee.

Narcotics / Probation Violation - 400 Block of Broadway. Officers were patrolling the downtown area when they observed a subject riding his bicycle on the sidewalk in violation of the municipal code. The detained subject admitted to having narcotics paraphernalia in his property. Paraphernalia was located and the subject was found to be probation. A probation hold was obtained.

Sex Offender / Narcotics - 600 Block of Olympic Blvd. Officers were patrolling the downtown area when they recognized a subject as a sex registrant out of compliance. The subject was detained for the registration violation. He was also in possession of fentanyl and more than half an ounce of methamphetamine.

No Bail Warrant - 1500 Block of Palisades Park. An officer conducting a periodic check of Palisades Park observed a subject known from a prior encounter as having outstanding warrants. The subject had an outstanding a No Bail warrant out of our agency for felony battery on a police officer.

Burglary – 2400 Block of Ocean Front Walk (OFW). Officers responded to an audible burglar alarm and discovered a window smash. The subject forced open both cash registers, which were empty. On the way out, the subject grabbed a bag containing Chip Clips.

Criminal Threats with Firearm- 1400 Block of Alley 7. The victim, a security guard, approached the subject and advised him about loitering near the business. The subject threatened to shoot the victim and simultaneously reached for what the victim believed was the handle of a firearm in the suspect's crossbody bag. The subject fled the area on foot southbound Alley 7 toward Colorado Avenue.

Criminal Threats / No Bail Warrant- 1500 Block of 2nd Street. The victim was walking with her mother when she noticed a subject following them. The subject told the victim he was going to stab her. They ran inside a local business and asked for help calling police. The suspect was located near Ocean Avenue and Colorado Avenue. The subject was on parole for robbery and had a No Bail warrant.

Assault with a Deadly Weapon - 500 Block of Broadway. Officers responded to a call of an altercation between the victim and suspect during which the suspect punched the victim and cut the victim with a pair of scissors. The victim sustained minor lacerations.

Grand Theft – 100 Block of Wilshire Boulevard. The victim reported that two suspects entered the jewelry store located inside the Fairmont Hotel and requested to see a Rolex watch. They distracted the victim by asking him to check the safe for additional inventory. While the victim checked the safe, the suspects stole the Rolex watch and a ring.

Traffic Stop / Gun Arrest – 1600 Block of Main Street. Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for expired registration. Investigation revealed a loaded handgun inside the vehicle (on the floorboard) with a matching empty holster attached to the belt of one of the occupants. Additionally, a small amount of cocaine was found. All four suspects were ultimately arrested (2 adults, 2 juveniles). Both juveniles were later cited out to their parents.

CRIME IMPACT TEAM (CIT) SPECIAL DEPLOYMENTS:

CIT officers conducted follow-up in the 2000 Block of 21st Street regarding reports

SEE CRIME STATS PAGE 7

MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

Then in 2022, he got "blessed." Responding to a casting notice for stunt wrestlers, he went to the tryouts. As he waited his turn, Oparanozie recalls, "a director came up to me and said, 'Wow, we like your look. Do you know how to act?' I said, of course I know how to act!"

It was his very first audition. The part turned out to be a supporting role in the feature film, "Unstoppable," a sports drama about NCAA champion wrestler Anthony Robles, who was born without one leg.

Oparanozie sailed through the Zoom audition with Emmy-winning casting director Victoria Thomas and was invited back for an in-person meeting. He was surprised to find six others in the room, including Emmy-winning actor Jharrel Jerome, who plays the lead role, and Oscar-winning film editor William Goldenberg, who is making his directorial debut with "Unstoppable."

Fortunately, Oparanozie says, "I didn't know who they all were until I looked them up afterwards." Had he known, he might have choked. The audition went well, and within two weeks, he was hired.

In the movie, Oparanozie plays Brian Corwin, the lead character's friend and reassuring Arizona State teammate. The role involves numerous scenes on the mat, on the track and in the locker room. JLo plays the protagonist's hardworking mother. Bobby Cannavale, Michael Peña and Don Cheadle round out an ensemble cast, with Ben Affleck and Matt Damon as the top producers. Early reviews are mostly positive.

Oparanozie's own story is pretty compelling. He was born and raised in Pittsburgh. His father, originally from Nigeria, was a retired international soccer player who supported his American wife and three sons as a professional coach. Oparanozie, the youngest, was only five when his dad was killed in a mistaken identity incident. After his death, the Oparanozie family struggled financially.

At 18, Oparanozie hit the road, couch-surfing from West Virginia to Ohio, New York and Arizona. "The desire to be an actor was always there," he says. "I think that's what kept moving me from place to place."

He enrolled at SMC in 2016. The first two months in LA, he was homeless, living rent-free in a hostel on 4th Street. He credits kinesiology chair Elaine Roque and administrator Melissa Pardo with helping him feel part of a community and giving him a job as a student worker in the Athletics Department.

Oparanozie started as a kinesiology major at SMC, but switched his focus to communications. Between his team commitments, student workload and campus job, he never had time for acting classes. But he studied on his own, watching Denzel Washington movies over and over, memorizing dialogue and re-enacting scenes in front of the mirror.

After two years at SMC, a football scholarship briefly took him to Ft. Lauderdale University as a transfer student, but by mid-semester he was back in LA, chasing his acting dreams.

He'd left SMC without a degree. "I'm very close, though," he says, "and I'm about to go back to take acting classes really soon."

Lately the 27-year-old actor has been attending screenings of "Unstoppable," including the Toronto Film Festival premiere in September, Tucson's Loft Film Festival in mid-October, and the Santa Barbara International Film Festival in late November.

"There's a lot happening without the movie even being out yet, so I can't imagine what's going to happen once it comes out," he says.

He recently signed a contract with a manager from Untamed Artists Los Angeles, and is now on the lookout for an agency. His next project is already lined up: a lead in the upcoming television series "Call My Reps," about a burnt out social media star and his eccentric crew of Hollywood hopefuls. "I play the big goofy guy," Oparanozie says. Filming starts in December. He will also earn a producer credit alongside executive producers Jordan Wallace and Parker Sack, both actors he met on the set of "Unstoppable."

He's been to many auditions and is feeling optimistic about his future as an actor. "My goal right now is to land a bigger role than what I just did," he says.

"Unstoppable" begins limited distribution in theaters in December, and makes its Amazon Prime streaming debut on January 16.

SMC Football Coach Kelly Ledwith reminisced about Oparanozie's journey—from the days he was a student athlete and a student worker in SMC's Kinesiology/PE department. "Mechi worked so hard at getting better even though he was one of our most talented student-athletes. It has been fun to watch him going from short social media clips to these larger roles over the years. I can't wait to see what he does next."

Submitted by Santa Monica College

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NEW YEAR'S

FROM PAGE 1

well as new additions to arguably the biggest celebratory day of the calendar. One of the city's longest traditions is the Santa Monica Playhouse's 55th Annual New Year's Eve Musical Revue, featuring songs, streamers and champagne.

Two shows are scheduled for the evening of the 31st, a 7 p.m. show that lets families take part in the fun, and a 10:30 p.m. show that goes right up until the changeover to 2025. Both shows are preceded by a champagne, sparkling juice and dessert buffet; while the 10:30 p.m. show is followed by a New Year's celebration between the cast and audience.

Initially meant to be a one-time affair, the 1969 event became completely sold out with audience members asking if the Playhouse cast was coming back next year, to which Co-Artistic Director Evelyn Rudie said "why not." The show is structured to have songs representing holidays of the previous months, and has evolved into a mix of traditional holidays and what Rudie said were "some of the more interesting, different" ones.

With hundreds, if not thousands, of unique holidays now on the calendar, the Playhouse has many options at their disposal, such as celebrating Valentine's Day and the following day's Singles Appreciation Day for February. Regardless of what they're celebrating, the Playhouse cast will always involve the audience when it comes to show structure.

"Audiences will say after a show, oh, I love that song, or could you do that song again," Rudie said. "Whenever we have conversations or we have discussions with our audience members, we also ask them, is there a favorite (song) you'd like us to do? And that's how we select the different songs that we do."



Courtesy Photo

NEW YEAR'S: Santa Monica Playhouse presents a Musical Revue dedicated to the past year's events every New Year's Eve.

The event reminds Rudie that she has spent another year around the stage, something she cherishes.

"For us, (New Year's Eve) means a chance to gather together with our families, and by families, I mean our acting company and our audience, and (celebrate) the fact that we're still here and that we will have another year in which to create art and to connect with our audiences and hopefully make them laugh a little, cry a little, think a little and do what they can to make the world a better place," Rudie added.

A more physically active option will be the New Year's Eve party at Ice at Santa Monica. From 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., the family-friendly evening features an East Coast countdown to the ball drop at 9 p.m., and the ice rink encourages everyone to "come in their sparkliest NYE outfit."

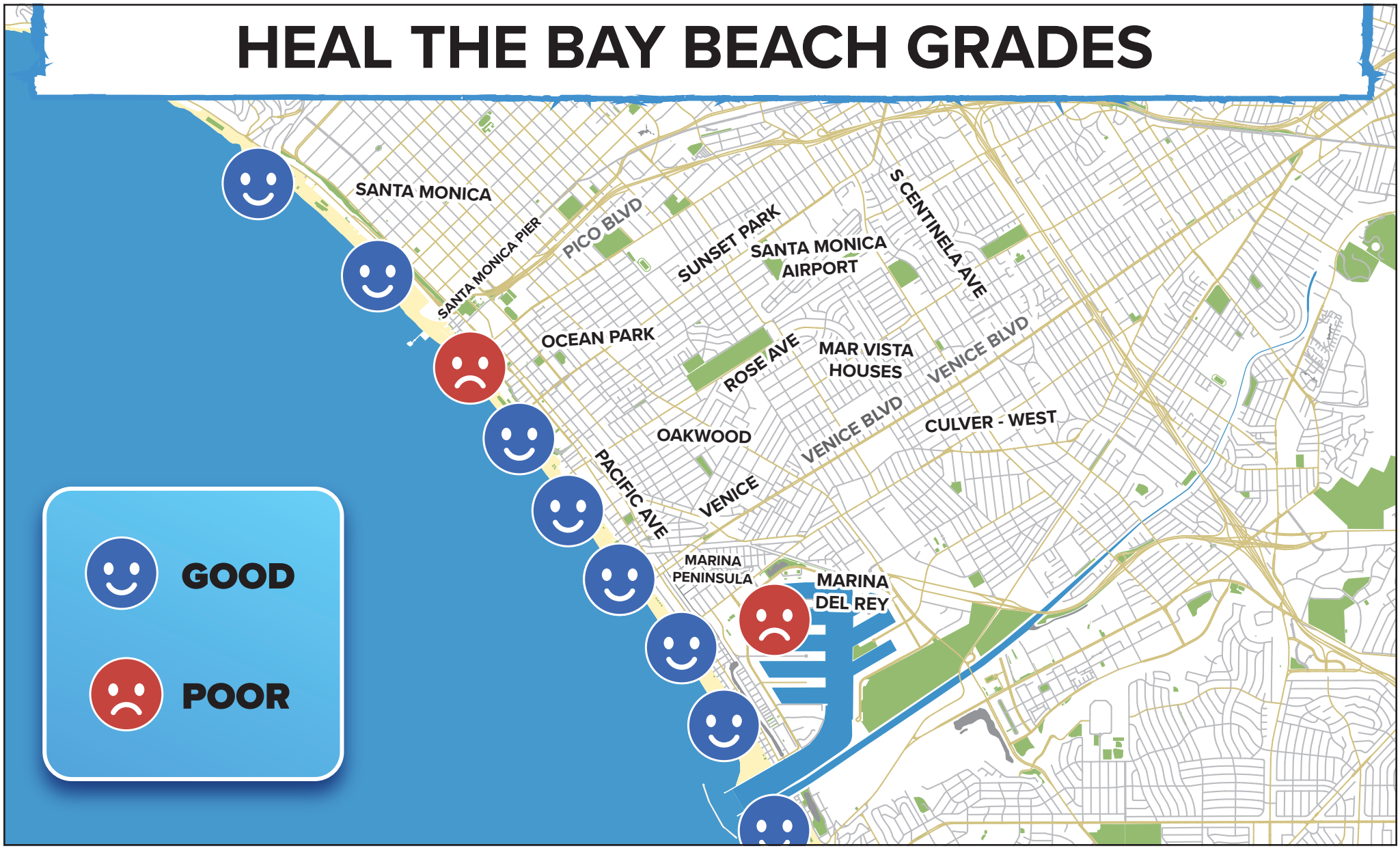
The combination of dinner and dancing will also be prominent in the Downtown area, such as the NYE Dinner Party at LouLou in Santa Monica Place. From 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., guests can take in two prix fixe menus, two DJs and live musicians. The Fairmont Miramar will also showcase an exclusive four-course meal at FIG, while another celebrated hotel, the Regent Santa Monica Beach, will have a Mediterranean tasting menu and live performances from Satin Dollz.

New Year's celebrations from around the world will be represented Downtown as well, with Ye Olde King's Head inviting locals to celebrate the British New Year at 4 p.m., followed by a local celebration at midnight.

For those that want to skip the dinner and go straight into the groove, the Santa Monica NYE Bar Crawl is back, beginning at 6 p.m. with registration at Jameson's Pub or Barney's Beanery. At check-in, crawlers will be given a map with participating bar locations, as well as VIP entry to an exclusive after party at a to-be-announced location.

To buy tickets for the Santa Monica Playhouse show, visit santamonicaplayhouse.com. To view a full list of New Year's Eve events, visit SMDP.com/events.

thomas@smdp.com



CRIME STATS

FROM PAGE 4

of gang graffiti. Video was obtained. During a call later in the week, officers observed the vehicle associated with the graffiti. The vehicle was stopped, and the driver identified. The investigation is ongoing.

CIT conducted a crime suppression operation in the Pico Neighborhood. CIT officers conducted a periodic check of Virginia Park and contacted a group. One of the individuals is on probation and a known Santa Monica gang member. All subjects were interviewed.

Officers observed several subjects loitering in the 2000 Block of Cloverfield Boulevard. One of the subjects was on probation for firearms and is a Santa Monica gang member. Officers attempted to contact the individual, but he fled inside a residence. The subject was called outside, and a probation search was conducted. Officers wrote a report to be forwarded to his probation officer for a possible violation.

CIT officers conducted high visibility patrol in the Wilshire corridor and Downtown area. Officers contacted a known probationer at 16th Street and Wilshire Boulevard for a municipal code violation. The subject was on felony probation for burglary. A want/ warrant check revealed an outstanding felony warrant for grand theft out of UCLA PD. The subject was arrested for the outstanding warrant.

CIT conducted a Beat 3 crime suppression operation. Officers conducted a bike stop at Cloverfield Boulevard and Santa Monica Boulevard for a municipal code violation. The subject was identified as a parolee at large. He was also in possession of methamphetamine and a meth pipe.

DIRECTED ACTION RESPONSE TEAM (DART)

Warrant Arrest - 1200 Block Beach Bike Path. DART officers contacted a pedestrian for a municipal code violation and discovered he had multiple outstanding warrants.

Warrant Arrest – 1300 Block of 3rd Street. DART officers contacted a known sex registrant. He was arrested for a total of ten warrants, all out of SMPD.

No Bail Warrant - 800 Block of Pico Boulevard. DART officers conducted a bike stop and discovered the subject was in possession of drug paraphernalia. A criminal history check showed the subject had a No Bail warrant from San Bernardino County for assault.

No Bail Parole Violation - 2300 Block of Santa Monica Boulevard. DART conducted a bike stop and found the subject was in possession of narcotics. The subject was arrests for a No Bail parole warrant.

Parole Violation – 1100 Block of Lincoln Boulevard. Officers contacted a subject in Reed Park for a parole compliance check. The subject was found to be out of compliance with the terms of his parole and was arrested.

Possible Casing – Beach Lot 1 North. Officers contacted a subject who was acting erratically and was suspected of burglarizing vehicles. There was no evidence of burglary. The subject was arrested for public intoxication (drugs).

HOMELESS LIAISON PROGRAM (HLP) TEAM NOTABLE INCIDENTS:

HLP Officers responded to the 1700 Block of 9th Street regarding a 311 request of multiple subjects camping in the alley. HLP Officers contacted a subject who had an outstanding Santa Monica Police Department Warrant. The subject was arrested without incident. The subject is experiencing homelessness and is from another state.

HLP Officers responded to the 1500 Block of 15th Street regarding a 311 request of an encampment in the alley. HLP Officers located an unoccupied encampment. HLP Officers contacted City of Santa Monica HOST maintenance crew who responded to the address and cleaned up the encampment and bulk trash.

There have been multiple 311 requests for the 2900 Block of 2nd Street stating different subjects have established large encampments. After several checks of the location, officers encountered a subject at the encampment and provided him resource opportunities. The subject left with his belongings and HLP Officers contacted the HOST team to assist with cleaning up trash and other debris.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT (CAU)

The Community Affairs Unit was awarded a Chief's Commendation for the team's exemplary service and dedication to public safety collaborations. They have done an amazing job creating a positive and engaging environment for all residents, business owners, and visitors to the city.

HARBOR PATROL UNIT

Boating Enforcement: Harbor Services Officers (HSOs) contacted a 22' power vessel with two persons on board, located just west of the Pier inside the breakwall/restricted boating area. The vessel was within 50 yards of the Pier. Boat operator was advised of the violations, and the vessel moved further west out of the area.

Disturbing the Peace (Pier Performers): HSOs observed a verbal altercation between two Pier performers arguing over performing spaces at the west end of the Pier. With the assistance of an on-duty LA County Sheriff's Deputy, the HSOs separated the performers and convinced them to leave the area.

Nudity / Ocean Rescue: HSOs responded to call of a nude female in the 1300 Block of the Beach. When the HSOs and responding officers attempted to detain her, she ran into the water and refused to exit. The HSOs and LA County Lifeguards pulled her from the water. Officers detained her and then transported her to a local hospital for a mental health evaluation.

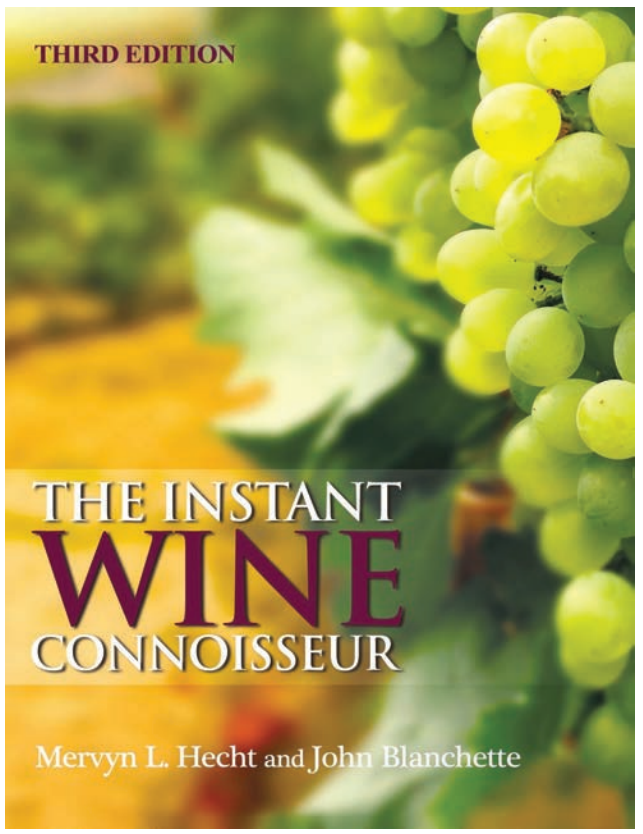
Mental Health Call: HSOs responded to Lifeguard Tower 15 to assist SMPD officers with a subject who stole a toy bat from citizens and then climbed into the back of a Lifeguard truck. The subject was transported to a hospital for a mental health hold and the toy baseball bat was returned to the owner.

Minor Medical Aid: HSOs received a call for a minor medical aid at the Pier Substation. A visitor to the Pier tripped over a curb and had minor abrasions to her lower extremities. HSOs cleaned and bandaged her wounds. She refused any further care.

Check the Status/Boat: HSOs responded to a call of a possible broken-down vessel and checked the area. The HSOs were later advised that the vessel in question made its way out of the area without any problems.

Authored By Erika Aklufi Lieutenant

★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



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Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00636 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Olivia Alexandra Adams for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Olivia Alexandra Adams with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Olivia Alexandra Mchtosh Adams to Olivia Alexandra Mchtosh . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/17/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

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BEACH

FROM PAGE 2

year, and Redondo Beach faces narrowing challenges exacerbated by infrastructure disruptions. These findings underscore the urgent need for proactive coastal resilience measures.

"This funding secured from the state represents a major step forward in protecting and preserving our coastline for generations to come," said Third District Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath. "With this vital partnership, we will advance the County's RCSAP, including design and robust community engagement for living shoreline projects across LA County. These efforts will protect our beaches and address the growing threats of climate change."

The RCSAP is part of DBH's Coastal Resilience Initiative, which aims to tackle these pressing challenges systematically by leveraging local, State and Federal resources and deploying nature-based strategies, while fostering collaboration with partners and stakeholders to ensure a sustainable coast that adapts to serve current and future generations.

"This project exemplifies how targeted investments can have far-reaching impacts, from protecting vital ecosystems to ensuring safe, inclusive access to all residents," said Second District Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell. "It's a win for our environment, economy, and communities."

Building on the foundational work of DBH's 2023 Coastal Resilience Study, the RCSAP will integrate cutting-edge solutions, including living shorelines, sediment reuse and enhanced shoreline management strategies.

"Tropical Storm Hilary last year and the extreme rains this year drove home that there is no time to bury our heads in the sand about the impacts of climate change across LA County," said Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn. "It's up to us to take action against the threat of coastal erosion. This grant is going to help us protect our beloved beaches for years to come."

> "Tropical Storm Hilary last year and the extreme rains this year drove home that there is no time to bury our heads in the sand about the impacts of climate change across LA County
>
> - Janice Hahn, Fourth District Supervisor

The RCSAP will engage a broad coalition of stakeholders, including municipal partners, tribal organizations, community advocates and regional agencies. These partnerships will help design and implement strategies tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities of LA County's diverse coastal communities.

Highlights of the RCSAP include:

Community and Equity Focus: The project prioritizes equitable beach access for all, with a major focus on preserving coastal access for members of underserved inland communities disproportionately affected by extreme heat and limited recreational opportunities. The planning process will incorporate robust stakeholder engagement to ensure that diverse community voices shape the strategies for a sustainable coastline.

Holistic Approach: The RCSAP will go beyond piecemeal solutions and consider how projects will benefit beaches in the Santa Monica Bay as a whole. This holistic approach, combined with the plan's focus on long-term sustainability, will ensure that the County's beaches remain accessible, resilient and vibrant for years to come.

A Collaborative Future for California's Coastline: The RCSAP is part of a larger statewide effort to build resilience against sea level rise, supported by the OPC's Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Grant Program. By leveraging state funds and aligning with California's sea level rise adaptation goals, DBH continues to set the standard for regional collaboration and innovative coastal management.

The RCSAP will be implemented over two years, with an initial on stakeholder engagement and data collection. Subsequent phases will develop actionable strategies and implementation pathways to build long-term resilience. To ensure transparency and accountability, key updates will be shared with the public and stakeholders throughout the project.

For more information on DBH's work on coastal resilience, visit beaches.lacounty.gov/coastal-resilience.

The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors manages Marina del Rey harbor and more than 20 miles of beaches along the Los Angeles County coastline, including world-famous Zuma, Malibu Surfrider, Venice and Manhattan beaches. In addition to promoting and maintaining a clean coastline, DBH operates and provides free community programming at the Dockweiler Youth Center in Playa del Rey and Burton Chace Park in Marina del Rey. For more information, visit beaches.lacounty.gov.

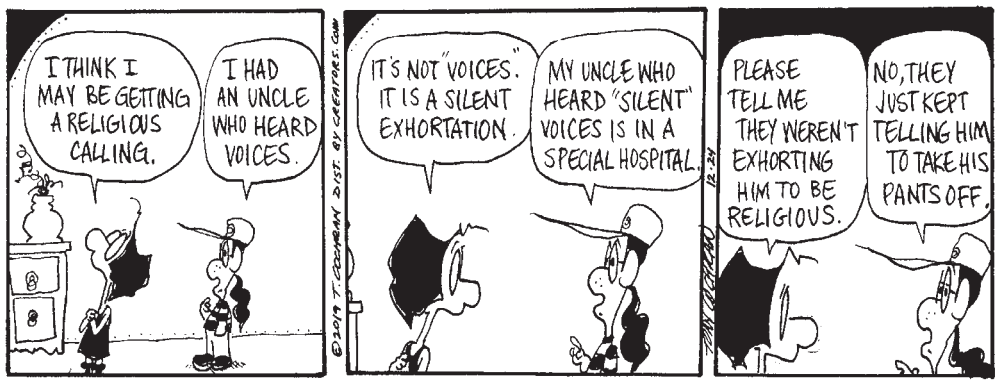
Submitted by Nicole Mooradian

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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



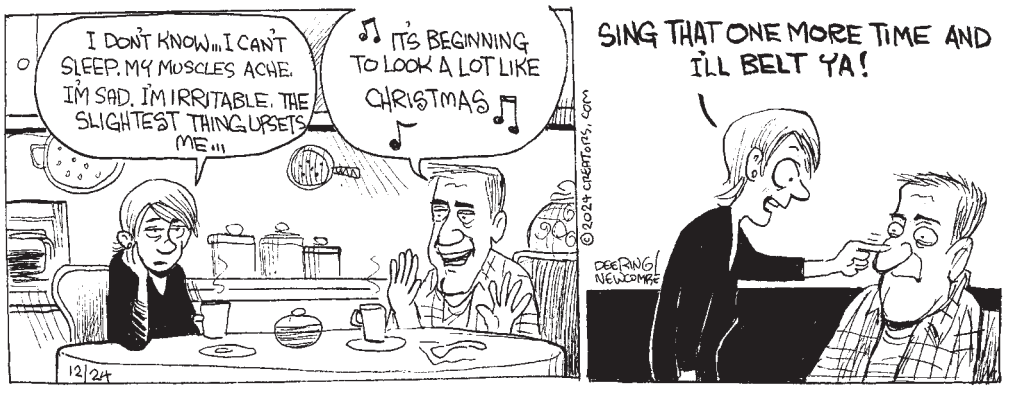
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



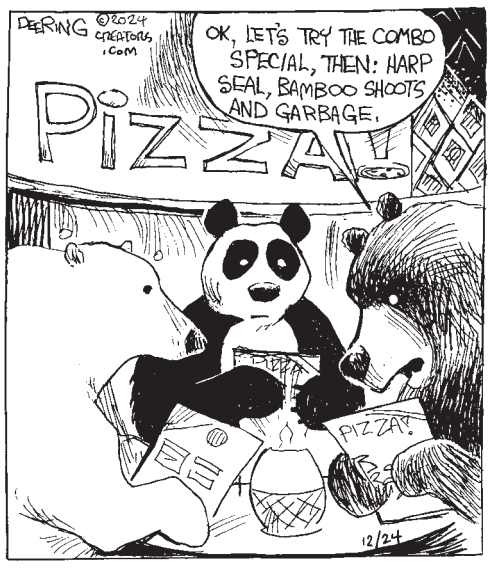
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6434

Countdown to midnight

I	D	O	L	P	E	A	N	U	T	S	T	E	I	D
S	H	I	E	E	N	S	S	K	C	A	N	S	G	R
I	G	P	E	D	C	N	I	S	G	G	E	H	S	A
Y	U	R	H	A	L	N	S	O	L	U	M	S	H	L
L	A	O	W	H	L	I	A	O	N	K	N	I	O	U
B	L	J	E	A	K	D	W	M	L	A	I	L	W	P
B	H	E	N	B	S	N	K	L	O	E	A	P	S	O
U	U	C	I	I	A	A	A	N	D	R	T	M	T	P
B	G	T	R	T	G	B	V	L	A	B	R	O	A	E
S	S	C	E	E	S	H	Y	E	E	H	E	C	H	R
T	S	I	H	K	R	A	T	D	N	A	T	C	G	S
R	M	S	T	N	A	U	U	S	Y	P	N	A	N	O
E	O	U	A	U	B	O	T	H	O	P	E	E	K	N
S	K	M	C	R	L	C	L	U	B	Y	S	O	D	A
S	E	E	S	D	N	E	I	R	F	Y	A	L	P	L

Accomplish	Drunk	Keep	Romance
Baby	Entertainment	Kiss	Save
Ball	Friends	Laugh	Show
Band	Future	Loud	Smoke
Bars	Glow	Music	Snacks
Break	Habit	Night	Soda
Bubbly	Happy	Noise	Stress
Catherine wheel	Hats	Peanuts	Thank
Club	Hope	Personal	Wild
Debt	Hotel	Play	
Diet	Hugs	Popular	
	Idol	Project	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 24)

A year of big feelings and the many gifts that come with chasing them through adventures, relationships and noble pursuits. You become a mighty leader as you take on hard problems. One exciting project sends you to distant places. More highlights: Hot tickets, team victories and a lump sum that allows for a splurge you've wanted for years. Cancer and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 10, 5, 13 and 19.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Remember, it's human instinct to cultivate appearances to some degree. You have a feeling that some people are smiling because of their internal weather, and others are smiling despite it. Your warmth has a softening effect on all.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Good questions will crack open a new world. It doesn't take many; it just takes the right ones. Your superpower is being able to sense what people want to share and backing off of what they don't. Respect is your compass.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Action creates energy. But if you think without making a move, those thoughts will use energy, and until you act, you'll be at a deficit. So, let motion lead the way. Even the smallest step can set off a powerful chain reaction.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Life brings a mystery. For this one, don't waste time imagining what's behind Door No. 3; just open it. You could imagine for hours and never get it right. Open the door and you'll know everything in a few seconds.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Knowing how pleasantly relaxing it is to spend your time in one place instead of rushing around to different engagements, you'll commit yourself sparingly and only to what you're reasonably sure you'll enjoy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a reason the words "quiet" and "confidence" go together. There's also a reason insecurity is noisy. It begs to be tended to and will do anything to capture the focus. The more centered you feel, the less you'll have to say or do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's clear that someone is special to you and no one else can quite fill this person's shoes. Celebrate what makes this bond uniquely yours. As you lean into this safe place, you'll find comfort, joy and inspiration.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't always have to fill a role in another person's life. Sometimes you can write your own, carve a niche, make it up as you go along. As you acknowledge and accept more of yourself, there will be more touchpoints for connection and sharing with others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will spend equal time looking outward to build connections with the world around you and reflecting to turn to what you know and deepen your inner experience. You'll walk the line, balancing both internal and external growth.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Imagine being able to feel through another's heart and truly grasp the depth of their emotion for you. But it's not the feeling that holds the weight; it's the action that follows. Today, that part will be crystal clear.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People trust you. It's the reason they want to work and play with you - you show up where you say you'll be and deliver what's promised, and for this you will be rewarded in big and small ways alike.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll share a walk down memory lane with someone who's been in your life for a while. Swapping stories isn't just fun; it strengthens bonds and offers everyone a welcome perspective on how far you've come.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

S	E	E	M	■	B	L	O	G	■	P	S	S	T	■
I	D	L	E	■	R	E	D	O	■	L	A	T	E	X
L	E	S	S	■	A	N	O	N	■	A	L	I	N	E
O	N	E	H	U	N	D	R	E	D	Y	A	R	D	S
■	■	■	■	H	D	L	■	■	R	E	D	■	■	■
F	R	O	T	H	Y	■	A	F	A	R	■	A	S	P
A	E	I	O	U	■	S	T	O	W	■	A	R	E	A
T	E	N	T	H	O	U	S	A	N	D	F	E	E	T
T	S	K	S	■	F	E	E	L	■	R	E	N	T	S
Y	E	S	■	C	A	S	A	■	N	E	W	T	O	Y
■	■	■	S	O	L	■	■	V	I	A	■	■	■	■
T	W	O	M	I	L	L	I	O	N	M	I	L	E	S
H	O	P	I	N	■	O	D	I	E	■	N	O	V	A
E	L	A	T	E	■	B	O	L	T	■	C	R	E	W
■	F	L	E	D	■	S	L	A	Y	■	H	E	N	S

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

1	3	4	2	8	7	6	5	9
7	9	5	6	1	3	4	8	2
2	6	8	4	5	9	1	7	3
5	4	9	7	3	6	2	1	8
8	7	3	1	2	4	9	6	5
6	1	2	8	9	5	3	4	7
3	8	7	9	4	1	5	2	6
4	5	6	3	7	2	8	9	1
9	2	1	5	6	8	7	3	4

	1	8		9				
		5				2	1	
	9	6	2		4			5
	2	3	5			7	9	
	7	9			2	4	6	
4			9		6	1	3	
	3	7				9		
				2		5	8	

Newsday Crossword

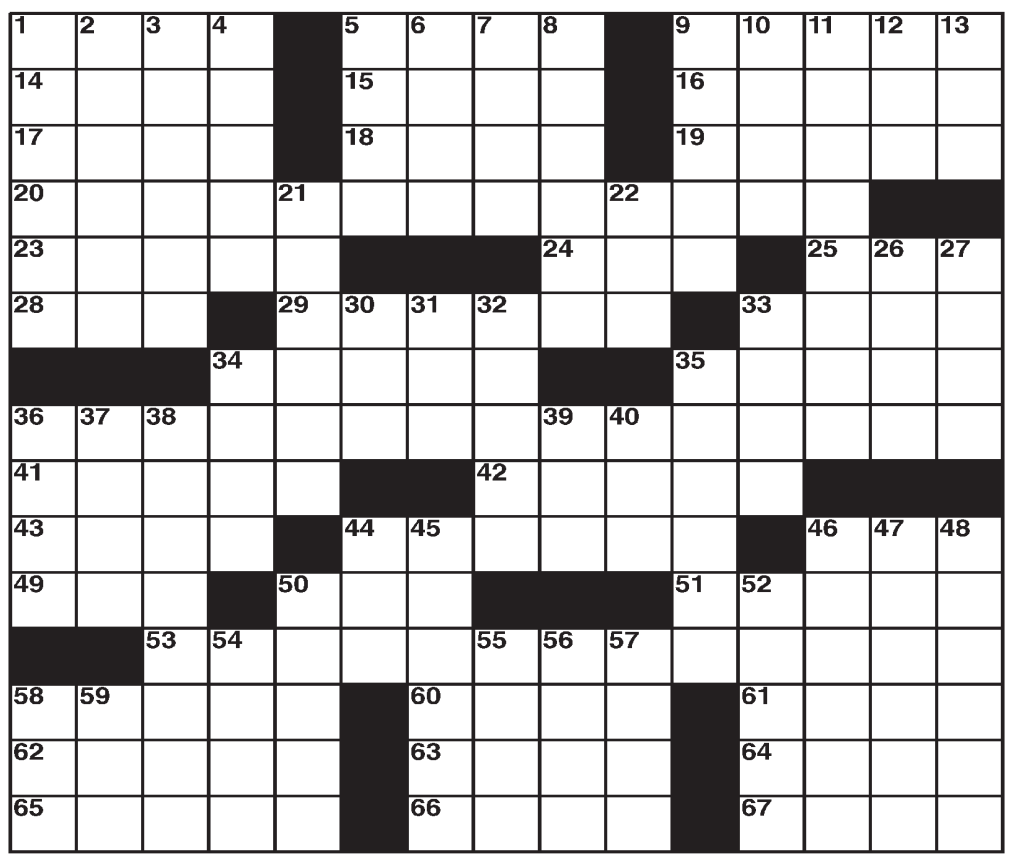
THREE DEPARTMENTS by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Be sulky
5 Birds that hoot
9 Follows orders
14 Greek war god
15 Cat's cry
16 Leaf of a flower
17 Garden soil
18 "When all __ fails..."
19 Not in good taste
20 Be strongly criticized
23 Sci-fi visitor
24 Mover's vehicle
25 Actor Hanks or Cruise
28 Kitty or doggie
29 Would rather have
33 "Half" prefix for circle
34 Poke fun at
35 Great danger
36 Massachusetts or Maine
41 Has sore muscles
42 Color variations
43 Vanish into __ air
44 Bahamas cruise stop
46 Alphabet intro
49 __ Angeles
50 Belly muscles
51 Deep-sea explorer
53 Military meal-cleanup duty
58 Link with
60 Scent
61 Erie or Huron
62 "Get lost!"
63 Roller coaster or carousel
64 Perched upon
65 Bothersome people
66 Online crafts site
67 Change for a $20 bill

DOWN

1 Wild and reckless
2 Black-and-orange bird
3 Allow
4 Lauder of cosmetics
5 Sign of the future
6 Fuse, as metal
7 Misplace
8 Turn sharply and suddenly
9 Decide to take part
10 Grizzly, for instance
11 And so on
12 Gab a lot
13 Crafty
21 Lets out of a corral
22 Not nearby
26 Don't include
27 Odometer measure
30 Cleaning cloth
31 Subj. for recent immigrants
32 Heroic deeds
33 Adjusts, as a clock
34 Adolescent
35 Prefix meaning "false"
36 Countrywide: Abbr.
37 Rebounding sound
38 Hairs of a beard
39 Phone bk. listings
40 High-tech "fingerprint"
44 Peacock logo network
45 Back from boating
46 Fly a plane
47 Invite with a hand wave
48 Crawls like a tot
50 Molecule parts
52 __-ease (nervous)
54 "Let's leave __ that"
55 Revise writing
56 Agrees silently
57 A fly, to a spider
58 Recipe amt.
59 Winter road hazard



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12/24/24

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

ENVIRONMENT

FROM PAGE 1

Education meeting on Dec. 19, district Sustainability Manager Austin Toyama gave the board the 2023-24 sustainability update. Broken into sustainability focus areas like climate, education, water and transportation; the presentation showed advancements birthed from the Districtwide Plan for Sustainability, adopted in March 2019.

"Integrating sustainability into the district's organizational curriculum and culture not only reduces the district's environmental footprint, but also generates cost savings, supports student achievement and develops the next generation of environmental stewards," Toyama said.

Districtwide advancements include 2023-24 water usage being down 32% compared to a baseline year of 2017-18. Not only does the decreased usage keep pace with 2025 Sustainability Plan goals, it also helps the district's financial position, as water costs were $147,206 lower in 23-24 than the baseline year.

Toyama explained that less usage can be attributed to high-efficiency plumbing fixture installations, smart irrigation controllers, drought-tolerant landscape designs and more rainy seasons in 23-24.

Energy efficiency has also been a sustainability focus, specifically honing in on increases in solar energy. Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic (PV) systems generated 18% of SMMUSD electricity in 23-24, including the majority of electricity use at Webster, Roosevelt, Grant, Franklin and Malibu elementary schools.

Plans call for solar generation to reach 30% by 2025, aided by new rooftop solar at the Samohi Exploration Building and the new Malibu High School building, with the latter noted as SMMUSD's first zero-net energy building.

The district has been recognized for its efforts, particularly in renewable energy sourcing. A recent switch to 100% renewable energy landed SMMUSD in the Clean Power Alliance Green Leader program.

"Given the significant environmental footprint of all our district facilities, sourcing 100% green power has drastically lowered our carbon footprint," Toyama added.

Another effort made was to get students to and from school without the usage of cars, via the Metro GoPass Program. In its third year in 23-24, over 2,600 students registered for the program, with a 14% increase in total boardings from the prior year.

"Students are getting more used to it, more comfortable, and we're seeing more usage of these cards," Toyama said.

More campus-specific initiatives included composting at Will Rogers Learning Community for the school's Regenerative Farm, resourcing food waste from student lunches into a final composted product. Other achievements were Malibu and Grant elementary schools incorporating food grown on campus into cafeteria menus, as well as upgraded garden beds at John Adams Middle School.

The 2019 sustainability plan, Toyama noted, set forth "many ambitious goals" that did not take into account the bevy of SMMUSD construction and modernization projects. However, he added, the plan has still been working.

"Despite the large volume of new construction and additions to our facilities, we've achieved many goals outlined in the plan and have taken big steps forward," Toyama said. "We acknowledge there's more work to be done, and we will continue our efforts to advance sustainable operations, practices and sustainability education throughout the district."

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Photo by Thomas Leffler

ENVIRONMENT: SMMUSD is making efforts to be more sustainable.



TUESDAY | DECEMBER 24

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members and assist with enrollment in CalFresh, as well as navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal and Medicare. Appointments can be made by calling 310-458-8688, drop-ins are also welcome.

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER AT ORLA

5 - 8 p.m. Regent Santa Monica Beach, 1700 Ocean Ave. Experience an unforgettable holiday at Orla, where panoramic ocean views set the stage for a celebratory prix fixe dinner. Crafted by Chef Michael Mina, this indulgent menu features a Mediterranean twist, blending seasonal flavors with coastal elegance for an exceptional dining experience. $125 for adults, $45 for children ages 3-10. For more, visit https://santamonica.regenthotels.com/experience/holidays/.

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 26

OAKWOOD ROOTS FARMERS AND WELLNESS MARKET

11 a.m. - 6 p.m. 685 Westminster Ave. Oakwood Roots Venice Farmers' and Wellness Market is a hub for local foods, wellness classes and holistic healing. This is part of a larger effort to revitalize the abandoned parking lots across the street from the park into a community hub, in partnership with Community Corporation of Santa Monica and Hoopbus.

SLOW FLOW YOGA

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. ARTime Barro, 302 Pico Blvd. Join for a meditative and relaxing practice involving mindful movement and deep breathing. Let your creativity flourish as you unwind and make space for clarity and inspiration. Tickets $10, for more visit: https://www.artimebarro.com/workshops/slow-flow-yoga.

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 27

DRUNK THEATRE LA HOLIDAY SHOW

9 - 10:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. Drunk Theatre is the entirely improvised, unpredictable and crazy comedy show that'll kick your weekend into overdrive. Cast includes Sahil Desai, Ittai Geiger, Cassie Grilley, Rodd Naimi, Oleg Trofimov and five shots of whiskey. Tickets $22, VIP tickets $35, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/drunk-theatre-la-wildest-holiday-nye-comedy-show-tickets-1052174802157.

DISCO POR FAVOR

9:30 - 11:30 p.m. Nalu Vida Venice Beach, 1 Washington Blvd., Venice. Join Nalu Vida and resident DJs Brian Epstein and Joeshua, as well as guests, who will be playing House, Disco, Rare Groove and Soul music. For more information, visit naluvida.com.

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 28

TANTRA SPEED DATE

7:45 - 10:45 p.m. Love Yoga Venice, 835 Lincoln Blvd. At Tantra Speed Date, trained facilitators use cutting-edge relational techniques to bring you and your dates into a mindful state of presence. Interactive guided exercises light that "spark" for you, no awkward small talk needed. Tickets $74, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tantra-speed-date-los-angeles-venice-meet-singles-speed-dating-tickets-941169652767.

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 29

SUNDAY TASTING

12 - 9 p.m. Ester's Wine Shop & Bar, 1314 7th St. New themes every week for Sunday Tastings, curated by Sommelier Randall Middleton. Enjoy a flight for $25 per person, which includes a mini cheese pairing and link to a video of the team telling stories about the lineup.

FISHERMAN'S VILLAGE WEEKEND CONCERT

2 - 5 p.m. Fisherman's Village, 13755 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey. Break out your dancing shoes for free outdoor concerts, featuring great performers playing R&B, Jazz, Latin, Pop and Blues.

MONDAY | DECEMBER 30

FREE MAT PILATES

7 - 8 a.m. ARTime Barro, 302 Pico Blvd. 50 minutes of Mat Pilates-inspired movement to build strength, flexibility and core. 10 minutes of gentle stretching and mindfulness to center and ground your energy. Bring comfortable workout clothes, a yoga mat and water for hydration.

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 31

NYE AT SALT

4 - 10 p.m. SALT Restaurant & Bar, Marina Del Rey Hotel, 13534 Bali Way, Marina del Rey. Ring in 2025 with a delightful three-course prix fixe dinner. Indulge in Maine Lobster Bisque, savor Salmon Soba, or enjoy Boneless Short Rib, followed by a decadent Bread Puddling Soufflé. A la carte menu available as well. To reserve, visit: https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=156871&restref=156871&experienceId=373364&utm_source=external&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=shared.

NYE AT BEACHSIDE RESTAURANT

4 - 10 p.m. Jamaica Bay Inn, 4715 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey. Celebrate NYE with an unforgettable dining experience, complete with live music. Enjoy a Prix Fixe Menu for $65 per person, starting with a glass of sparkling wine. An à la carte menu will also be available. To reserve, visit: https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=51730&restref=51730&experienceId=373245&utm_source=external&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=shared.

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY ZOOM BOOK CLUB

5 - 6 p.m. Virtual. Join the Venice Branch Library for a lively discussion of the month's fiction or non-fiction book pick. New members welcome. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk of Venice Branch Library, 501 South Venice Blvd. Email venice@lapl.org for Zoom link.


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From everyone at
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